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Bangalore Mirror ON SATURDAY

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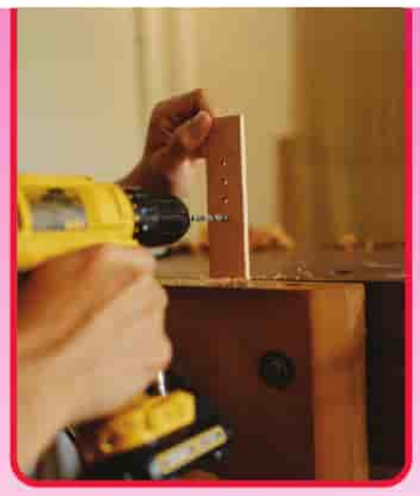

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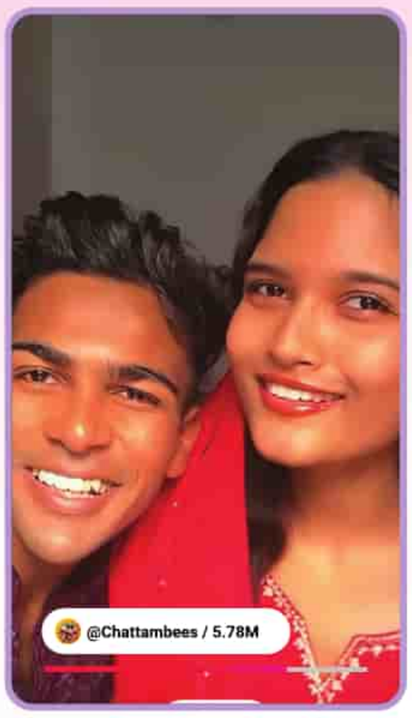

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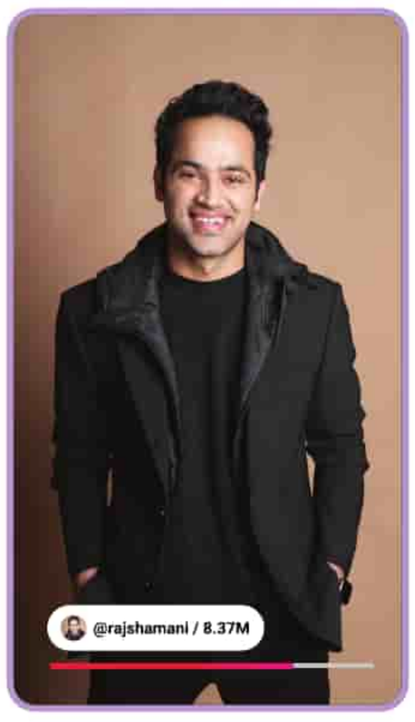

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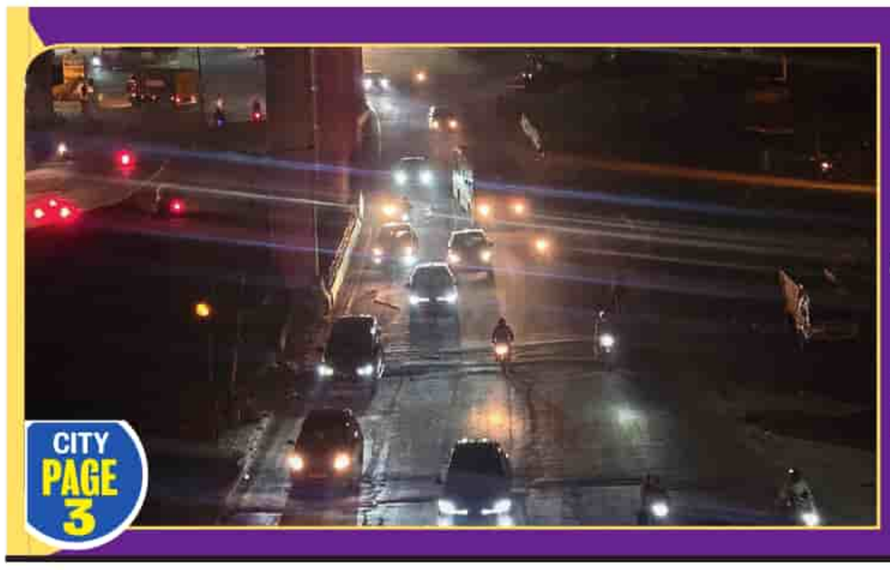


CITY PAGE 3

ROAD TRIPPING

Toll booth authorities accused of apathy even as rod thrown at moving car on NICE Road points to lack of security on key stretch

STING THING

BBMP collects Rs 11 lakh in fines from residents/owners of buildings that failed to curb mosquito breeding; more initiatives planned

CITY PAGE 5

Electrical equipment stolen or vandalised, premises trashed by tipplers — Puttenahalli Lake that was once restored by committed citizens is once again ignored by authorities

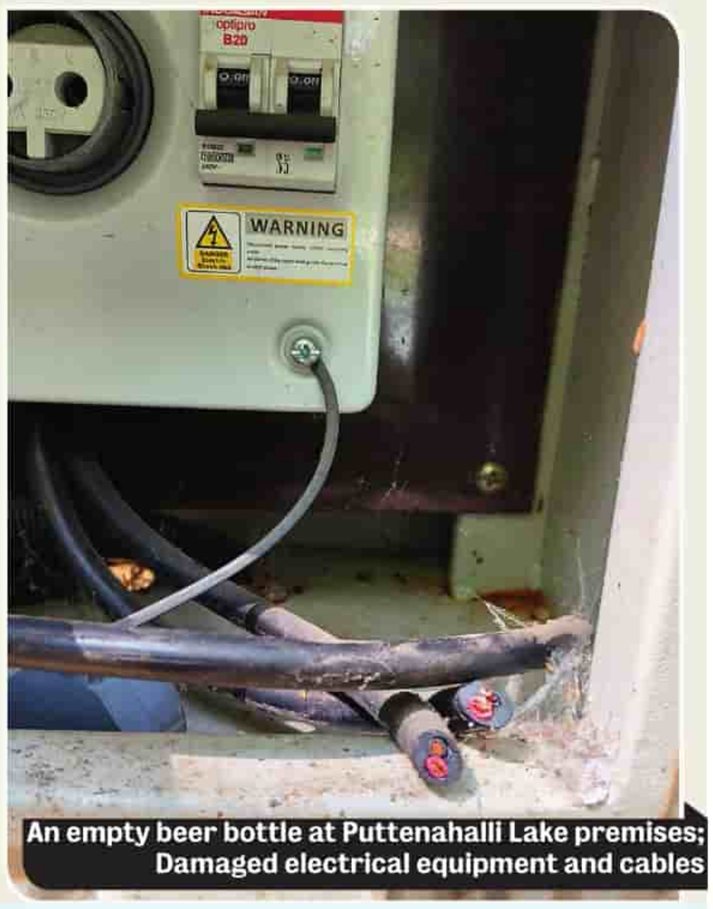
LAKE LOOT

BBMP must appoint more guards to keep vigil, residents of area say

Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Puttenahalli Lake, located in JP Nagar, continues to be in limelight for wrong reasons. This time it is the utter neglect of the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) and police that has worsened matters at the lake premises. While the BBMP officials are taking their own sweet time to fence the lake, the police have forgotten to keep a vigil on activities at the lake. And the result is, miscreants gather at the Puttenahalli Lake after dark, not only to booze, but also to take away whatever is available and is useful to them.

Shockingly, some of the electric equipment, including cables, have gone missing from the lake. The electric equipment and the cable were procured by Puttenahalli Neighbourhood Lake Improvement Trust. "Some miscreants damaged the electrical equipment at the lake. They took away around 40 metres of electric cable. One can see empty liquor bottles on the lake bund. Misuse of the lake has become a routine due to lack of a fence around the lake," said Ramu MP, a gardener, who maintains the plants and walking path around the lake.



An empty beer bottle at Puttenahalli Lake premises; Damaged electrical equipment and cables

Usha Ragjagopalan, chairperson of Puttenahalli Neighbourhood Lake Improvement Trust (PNLIT) told BM the lake lacks security guards. "Most of the lake space lacks a fence and it

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12 »

> **"Most of the lake space lacks a fence and it is open for miscreants to create nuisance at night on the lake bund. We have also informed Puttenahalli Police about the missing electrical equipment**
>
> —Usha Ragjagopalan, Puttenahalli Neighbourhood Lake Improvement Trust

Big, fat Bengaluru wedding

Though compared to a decade ago, cost of weddings has nearly doubled, city is not holding back

Sridhar.Vivan@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @sridharVMIRROR

Bengaluru is witnessing a bustling wedding season this year. The ongoing marriage boom, which began in January and is expected to continue through the second week of June, has led to a surge in commercial activity across multiple sectors. From apparel and gold to groceries and decorative services, almost every business has seen a rise in demand — with decorators, cooks, and related service providers in high demand.

March to June is traditionally considered the peak wedding season. In Bengaluru alone, hundreds of weddings have taken place over the last few months. The rise in ceremonies has not only boosted local trade but has also created employment opportunities for many, especially students who juggle studies and part-time jobs.

"Wedding season is a boon for the youth. Many college students are working part-time in wedding kitchens and as serving staff to earn

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12 »

VK Education Fair begins today

For students dreaming of securing sought-after engineering or medical seats but feeling overwhelmed by the myriad options, the VK Education Fair beginning from Saturday promises clarity and guidance.

The fair, free for all attendees, will host over 35 reputed engineering and medical colleges, offering students and parents a chance to gather crucial information about courses, fees, and career prospects. Officials from the Karnataka Examination Authority (KEA) will also be present to walk students through the application process, seat allotment, and counselling system, addressing common queries.

Highlighting the fair's comprehensive approach, student Ananya Ramesh shared, "I'm really looking forward to meeting representatives from different colleges in one place. It's tough choosing the right course, and this fair will help me understand what suits me best." Another aspirant, Rahul Kumar, added, "Getting detailed information about management and government quota seats, plus the new courses in AI and skill development, is a big plus. It's exciting to plan my future with expert advice right here."

Special emphasis will be placed on educational loans for students from economically weaker and middle-income families, with banks offering on-the-spot assistance and guidance on eligibility and application procedures. The fair will also introduce new-age programs focused on emerging fields like artificial intelligence and other skill-based courses, aligning education with future industry needs.

The venue is easily accessible via bus and metro, with nearby stops at SBI Circle and Central College metro station, along with ample parking for visitors. With management quota seats available at government quota fees for top CET rank holders and instant loan assistance from major banks on-site, the VK Education Fair is set to be a one-stop destination for students planning their academic future.

— BMB

Event Details

Dates: May 31 & June 1

Time: 9 am to 6 pm

Venue: Jnana Jyothi Auditorium, Bangalore University, Central College Campus, Palace Road, Bengaluru

Scan the QR code to register

- Experts to guide students on choosing courses with high employment potential.
- Detailed information available on arts, commerce, and science streams.
- Participate and win a laptop, sponsored by Saptagiri NPS University.
- Universities from New Delhi, Mumbai, and Gujarat with Bengaluru campuses will be present.
- Management quota seats at government quota fees for CET rank holders under 10,000.
- Major banks offer instant educational loan assistance on-site.

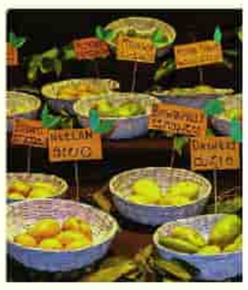
Don't miss this premier education fair to get the help you need to take a step closer to your dream career!

Vijaya Karnataka organises the VK Education Fair every year to help provide guidance to students

For more details, contact: 99160 79232 / 96869 38983

THINGS TO DO

01 Mango mania



Ranga Shankara is organising its annual 'Mango Party', bringing together mango lovers for a day of feasting, storytelling, and fun. As a ticket to the event, guests must bring 1 kg of mangoes per person to contribute to the communal feast. **Where: Ranga Shankara, JP Nagar; When: June 1, 11 am to 6 pm**

02 Art escape

Art Bengaluru Collective (ABC) is presenting its seventh multi-art exhibition, ABC 7.0, marking the convergence of 25 artists and 250 plus artworks cutting across genres. **Where: Bangalore International Centre, Domlur; When: May 31 and June 1, 11 am to 8 pm**

03 Melody magic

Rekha Bharadwaj will be transporting the audience to a musical bliss with her distinctive voice at 'Humari Atariya Pe', a bollywood concert. **Where: Phoenix Marketcity, Whitefield; When: June 1, 7 pm**

04 Culinary journey

Curated by Khansama Nasir Hussain, who carries over three decades of culinary tradition from Rampur, Rampuri Festival, a celebration of one of India's most refined and lesser-known royal cuisines, is offering an opportunity to experience the region's authentic flavours and timeless elegance. **Where: Spice Terrace, JW Marriott Hotel; When: May 23 to June 1, 6.30 pm to 11 pm**

05 Groove on

Lala Tamar, an electrifying force on the global stage—a vocalist, dancer, and guembri player whose performances defy borders and ignite the senses, will be mesmerising the audience with a live performance. **Where: Windmills, Whitefield; When: May 30 and 31, 9.30 pm**

Richardsons Face Hospital observes Annual Hospital Day

Richardsons Face Hospital Private Limited held its Annual Hospital Day on May 26 at its auditorium in Bengaluru. The event recognised the hospital's journey, work, and service in patient care. The programme began with the lighting of the ceremonial lamp, attended by the Guest of Honour. A prayer and a musical performance by hospital staff followed.

Dr Sunil Richardson, Founder and Medical Director, welcomed the guests and spoke about the hospital's work in surgery and patient care. Mementos were given to the Chief Guest and Guest of Honour as a token of appreciation. Dr Harish shared updates on the hospital's progress over the past year, including changes in clinical outcomes, use of technology, and outreach programmes with the community. Educational scholarships were given to two deserving individuals by the Chief Guest. The Chief Guest also spoke about the hospital's work in healthcare and community programmes. Outstanding Performance Awards were given to staff members for their work during the year. Dr Ananda Krishnan gave the vote of thanks. The hospital marked the day by highlighting its focus on service, care, and work with the community. — BMB

SBI collaborates with KDEM to support GCCs

State Bank of India has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Karnataka Digital Economy Mission (KDEM) for supporting Global Capability Centres (GCCs) in Karnataka during the 'GCC Leaders Connect' event held on May 28 at Conrad Bengaluru. The MoU was signed by Joohi Smita Sinha, Chief General Manager of SBI Bengaluru Circle, and Sanjeev Gupta, CEO of KDEM, in presence of B V Naidu, Chairman of KDEM. The MoU marks the beginning of a strategic partnership aimed at enabling and empowering GCCs in Karnataka through collaborative initiatives between SBI and KDEM. On this occasion, SBI announced the opening of India's first exclusive GCC in Bengaluru. This pioneering initiative is designed to offer customised banking solutions and support to the growing GCC ecosystem in the state.

Additionally, the event featured a panel discussion on 'Reimagining GCCs: Strategic Perspectives for a New Era'. Veera Lokesh, Director of Western Digital, Sharada, Country Head for Bayer India, and Aditya Meena, Partner GCC at Deloitte, participated in the discussion. Another panel discussion titled 'Driving Operational Excellence & Innovation in GCCs' had Romit Sen, Director of Blackhawk, Saraswathi Ramachandra, MD & Country Head for Lightcast, Srinivas Sampath, Vice President of Upland Software, Sreedevi Hegde, Managing Director of Vervent, Shivi Mithal, GM at Mimecast, and Nagalakshmi Shetty, Vice President of Icon PLC, in attendance. The event was organised in association with Zyoin Group, a prominent recruitment solution provider for GCCs, startups, and the IT BT Sector.

The event has received an excellent response and has proved to be an exceptional platform for stakeholders across the GCC landscape to interact, exchange ideas, and forge partnerships that will shape the future of digital economy in Karnataka.

— BMB

After two years of darkness, 100 Feet Road to finally light up

The much-awaited installation of tubular light poles on Indiranagar 100 Feet Road has commenced. CV Raman Nagar MLA S Raghu attended a pooja organised to mark the occasion and auspiciously begin the installation work. "The 100 Feet Road in Indiranagar will be on par with the roads in Singapore after midnight. We have taken measures to install the tubular street light poles from the Old Madras Road Junction to HAL Airport Road Junction on the 100 Feet Road," said MLA S Raghu, adding that 205 street light poles are to be installed on the stretch.

Speaking about the project, Vinod Jacob of Namma Bengaluru Foundation said that well-lit streets play a crucial role in deterring crime, especially against women. "Incorporating solar-powered automatic switches for dusk-to-dawn operation would also improve efficiency, reduce power wastage, and help manage costs," he suggested. He urged the authorities to ensure that streetlights are installed at a lower height to effectively illuminate the roads, as higher placements often get blocked by tree canopies. "White topping of 100 Feet Road was completed around 2022 or thereabouts, and shockingly street lighting was not a part of the original white topping tender/contract thereby leaving 100 Feet Road in darkness," said Satish Rao, a social worker from Indiranagar.

Rao said that repeated requests to the BBMP did not yield results but the perseverance of residents, including I Change Indiranagar (ICIN), eventually paid off. "My sincere hope is that the work is completed at the earliest and also that the street lights are maintained properly unlike the streetlights on the nearby white topped 80 Feet Road which remains in darkness in many stretches due to poor maintenance by Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP)," he added.

— Y Maheswara Reddy

Know your ideal home: Smart or automated?

With the rapid growth in knowledge, awareness and research about artificial Intelligence, words like 'automated homes', 'connected homes', 'smart homes' or even 'intelligent homes' are used quite casually and are generally presumed to be very different from what they are. More often than not, they're thought of as the same. However, there are key differences that individuals ought to know.

An automated home

a) Provides you with the comfort of performing various tasks with a single command, better known as multitasking.

b) Enables you with the immense convenience of monitoring and controlling your home, not only from within the house but also remotely from a distant location.

c) Has many security features like intrusion detectors, CCTV monitors, the presence of audiovisual alarms, etc.

d) Is equipped with safety measures to detect an emergency. Examples of this are a fire, smoke or gas leak in the house

e) Saves you money by curtailing your electricity and water bills through effective and optimised usage of devices

How are smart homes different?

A smart home is an advanced version of an automated home. It comes with a built-in intelligence that's incorporated into the system with the help of what is known as Artificial Intelligence (AI).

a) Eliminates human errors and takes immediate remedial measures to rectify any mistakes that an individual may make.

b) Helps increase your productivity by taking responsibility for making decisions and performing tasks according to the behaviours, habits and patterns of the individual.

c) Saves a lot of time by helping you in your day-to-day work and chores. Your smart home can automatically order your groceries from an online store according to your list as soon as it senses that your grocery stock has fallen below a certain level.

–Bhawana Bhatnagar, Founder, CASA Exotique, for Femina

Iron rod hurled at vehicle, safety concerns mount

Rod is thrown at moving car near Bannerghatta Road, shattering windshield and narrowly missing passengers; incident sparks outrage as commuters demand improved security and police intervention

Sanjana CS
c-sanjana.s
@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

Near the Bannerghatta Road stretch, an unidentified person reportedly threw an iron rod at a moving car, piercing the windshield and narrowly missing the passengers.

The incident took place late in the evening when a techie was travelling along the NICE Road. The driver suddenly heard a loud crash. A long, rusted iron rod had struck and penetrated the front windshield, shattering the glass and embedding itself into the dashboard.

The response from toll booth authorities at the PES toll plaza was also concerning. When the driver stopped to report the incident, the staff reportedly responded with indifference. "These things keep happening. Nothing new," one of the employees allegedly said, brushing off the complaint as if it were routine.

This nonchalance has triggered outrage among motorists and safety advocates. "Things keep happening? How many people go past them daily, and what are the police doing despite this continuing to happen?" Meanwhile, another user stated, "If these things keep happening, why are we paying the toll? Are police that incompetent? Can you not catch these stone/rod/ egg throwing miscreants? No value for human life in India," questioned a commuter on X (formerly Twitter).

Security on NICE Road faced scrutiny due to past incidents of stone-pelting, robberies, and vehicle attacks

Security on NICE Road has come under scrutiny before, with past reports of stone-pelting, highway robberies, and vehicles being targeted by miscreants, especially in low-lit areas during the night. However, the frequency of such incidents seems to be climbing, and the lack of surveillance or swift response mechanisms only fuels the problem.

Senior police officials of the Hulimavu jurisdiction stated, "We haven't got any such complaints so far, but we will take a look at this incident." However, another user on social media stated, "NICE Road users pay a premium toll for better roads and safer travel. How can toll staff ignore such life-threatening incidents?"

Another user on X shared, "My friend also told a similar incident four years back, his car windshield was broken by a stone thrown from the bridge, you can't stop the car and there is no way to climb the bridge from NICE, if I remember it's near the Bannerghatta road exit." Meanwhile, another person speaking with experience stated, "They have been doing it for the last 10-12 years."

The Police officials have been informed. Meanwhile, commuters are demanding an investigation and regular patrolling to seek safety upgrades.

City shows spirit in 'Walkathon – Step Forward, Give Back'

On the rain-kissed morning of May 18, Bengaluru woke up to a powerful display of community spirit, fitness, and compassion. Over 2,800 enthusiastic participants gathered at St Joseph's Indian Institutions, opposite the iconic Kanteerava Stadium, for the much-awaited "Walkathon – Step Forward, Give Back!", an inspiring initiative co-organised by o9 Solutions and 93.5 RED FM.

What began as a drizzly dawn quickly transformed into a festival of energy and togetherness. The event kicked off with a high-octane Zumba session led by professional trainers from Fit Community, setting the tone for a morning that celebrated wellness in every stride. Participants then embarked on their preferred walking distances, 3 km, 5 km, or 10 km, each route echoing a message of unity, determination, and giving back.

The event was officially flagged off by guests, including Olympian Anju Bobby George, Sandalwood actor Aryan Santosh, and Joint Commissioner of Traffic MN Anucheth.

"Braving the overnight rains, o9ers, along with their families and friends, turned out in large numbers to make this event unforgettable. For every participant crossing the finish line, a child is supported through the Make a Difference initiative. It's a true reflection of o9's commitment to social impact and employee well-being," shared Dr Narasimha Kamath, Executive Vice-President, o9 Solutions.

Dr Narasimha Kamath, Executive VP o9 solutions

B Surendra, Red FM

Suresh, General Manager, Red FM

This year's walkathon was not just about fitness, it was about purpose. With every step, participants helped create change. A portion of every registration fee, along with ₹500 for every finisher, was pledged to Make A Difference (MAD), a non-profit working to uplift children in need of care and protection.

The event was graced by heroes in uniform as well, including ex-servicemen, active Indian Army personnel, and members of the Bengaluru Traffic Police, reinforcing a powerful message of solidarity and service.

Mr B Surendra, Director & COO of RED FM Network, applauded the city's spirit: "Hats off to Bengalureans! Rain or shine, you turned up in numbers, proving your commitment to health, social harmony, and sustainability. We at RED FM are thrilled to support such high-impact, city-building initiatives."

Suresh Ganesan, General Manager, Karnataka, 93.5 RED FM, echoed the sentiment: "Nothing stops Bengaluru, not the rains, not the traffic! Watching 2,500+ people walk together to give back was an incredible sight."

Adding to the vibrant atmosphere were branded T-shirts, goodie bags, finisher medals, participation certificates, and a nourishing breakfast, creating a sense of achievement and camaraderie. On-ground medical support from doctors and physiotherapists ensured a safe and worry-free experience for all.

Governance dashboard is live now

The Chief Minister's Dashboard, a key digital governance initiative developed in-house by the Centre for e-Governance (CeG), is now functionally complete and hosted at cmdashboard.karnataka.gov.in. Designed to provide real-time, integrated insights into crucial development indicators across Karnataka, the portal aims to enable data-driven governance and informed decision-making at the highest administrative levels.

The application has successfully undergone a comprehensive security audit and is now securely accessible to users. Built entirely without vendor dependencies, the platform features a robust microservices-based architecture that ensures scalability and seamless integration with various departmental systems. By pulling data through APIs from multiple government departments, the dashboard eliminates the need for manual data entry, improving both accuracy and efficiency.

The dashboard organises state performance indicators into four major categories: Economic Growth (including investments and beneficiary tracking), Legal and Judiciary Management (covering RTI and Sakala case disposals), Infrastructure Development (with data on roads, irrigation, and renewable energy), and Citizen-Centric Governance (highlighting Guarantee Schemes and Janaspandana). The platform is also designed with public transparency in mind, offering citizens real-time access to progress metrics and updates on key government schemes and services.

— BMB

Transformer shortage sparks power issues in Banashankari

BDA's slow action leaves residents dealing with outages, appliance damage, and costly repairs as defunct transformers remain unrestored across the large residential layout

Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The residents of Banashankari 6th Stage have been facing a lot of problems due to fluctuation of power supply. Though the layout was developed by Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) many years ago, the residents are compelled to spend more on home appliances. The layout has around 240 electric transformers but majority of them are either missing or defunct thus causing fluctuation in power supply which results in damage to the home appliances.

Though the Bengaluru Electricity Supply Company (Bescom) is supplying the power to the layout, the BDA is yet to hand over the maintenance of the transformers. Recently, the BDA has floated a tender to repair and install transformers at Banashankari 6th Stage and other layouts developed by it.

The layout requires approximately 300 transformers to ensure stable and uninterrupted power supply, but so far, the BDA has installed only 60, leading to frequent voltage fluctuations and inconvenience for residents

> **"We have already requested BDA engineers to make arrangements for trimming of trees to ensure power supply without any fluctuation but nothing has been done till date**
> – Prasanna Kumar, Resident, 5th Block, Banashankari 6th Stage

"We have been discussing and holding meetings with the BDA engineers seeking installation of new transformers and repair of the defunct transformers. The BDA engineers have commenced the work. Some residents have incurred loss when their home appliances were damaged due to fluctuation in power supply," said TS Mahesha, president, Banashankari 6th Stage Residents Welfare Association.

Expressing concern over the frequent fluctuation in power supply, Prasanna Kumar, a resident of 5th Block of Banashankari 6th Stage, said the BDA engineers have failed to install the sufficient number of transformers in the layout. "The layout needs around 300 transformers but the BDA has installed only 60 transformers. Residents are compelled to spend more money either to repair or replace the home appliances that were burnt or damaged due to fluctuation in power supply. We have already requested BDA engineers to make arrangements for trimming of trees to ensure power supply without any fluctuation but nothing has been done till date," said Kumar.

Meanwhile, BDA executive engineer (electrical) Vasanth, said the installation of transformers has already begun. "We are installing the transformers on a priority basis. We have taken up measures to repair the defunct transformers," said the executive engineer.

BBMP chief pushes for speedy flyover completion

Ejipura elevated corridor flyover (file photo)

BBMP Chief Commissioner Maheshwar Rao has instructed officials to expedite the Ejipura flyover construction by completing land acquisition and fast-tracking the remaining work to ease public inconvenience. During a 3.5-km inspection walk with civic officials from the Dairy Circle area of Double Road to Sony Junction, Rao reviewed the progress of the flyover at Ejipura. Reaching the top of the under-construction flyover, he evaluated the pace of work and directed contractors to speed up operations and complete the structure for public use at the earliest.

He emphasised the urgent need to acquire land near the St John's ramp section and asked officials to hold immediate meetings with stakeholders to resolve the acquisition process and proceed with the ramp construction swiftly. Responding to queries during the inspection, BBMP's Chief Engineer from the Quality Control Division stated that BSCPL Infrastructure Ltd is executing the remaining portions of the Ejipura flyover. Of the 762 segments planned, 416 have been cast and 291 segments have already been erected. Rao also instructed the proper maintenance of the road underneath the flyover, pointing out the lack of upkeep on both pedestrian walkways. He ordered contractors to take up repair work immediately and ensure stormwater drains are functional to prevent waterlogging. Observing garbage dumped near the Madiwala bus pick-up point, he directed that local pourakarmikas begin daily cleaning work by 6 AM. Noting the area's high footfall due to numerous buses, he stressed the importance of maintaining hygiene consistently.

Junction upgrade at Madiwala

Rao also instructed the comprehensive development of the junction above the Madiwala underpass, including road improvement, pedestrian pathways, and the repositioning of the police outpost that is currently obstructing pedestrian movement.

Inspection route spans key areas

The 3.5-km inspection walk began near Christ College at Dairy Circle, covering key stretches including the St John's College Junction, Madiwala underpass, Koramangala 100-feet Road, Kendriya Sadan, Ejipura flyover road, and ended at Sony Junction. Rao directed the officials to ensure both roads and footpaths across these segments are properly maintained and upgraded. **— BMB**

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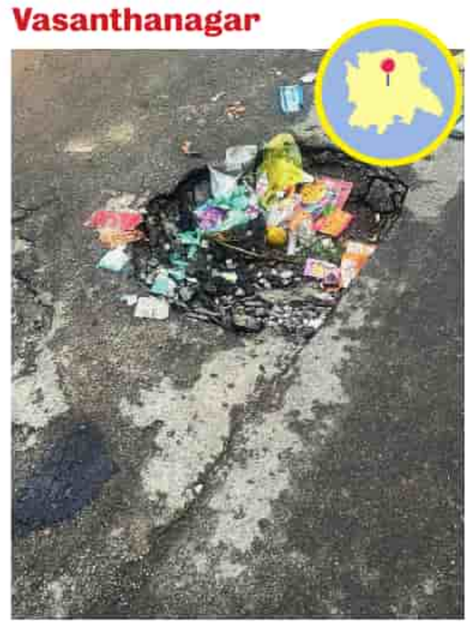
Public risk

Vasanthanagar



A large open pit, garbage heaps, and an exposed transformer near a mosque on 6th Cross, Vasanthanagar, are endangering resident safety.

Urban neglect

LBS Nagar

In LBS Nagar, vehicles frequently get stuck on caved-in roads due to incomplete sewage work, with roads left unpaved for months after pipe laying—highlighting a broader city issue.

Waste zone

BM Kaval

At BM Kaval, HAL 3rd Stage, irregular BBMP garbage collection has caused widespread roadside dumping, with nearby government staff ignoring the escalating problem.

BBMP carries out sting operation against dengue

Rs 11 lakh collected in fines in 1 week from owners of buildings that failed to prevent breeding of mosquitoes

Garima Prasher
garima.prasher
@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Stagnant water after the rain are fertile ground for mosquitoes

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has collected more than Rs 11 lakh in fines from commercial establishments, under-construction buildings, and residential apartments across the city that have failed to prevent the breeding of dengue-causing mosquitoes on their premises in just a week.

So far, more than 36 lakh in penalties have been generated through a little over 3,500 notices issued to various establishments. The majority (450 notices) were given in Bengaluru East.

"We are imposing a penalty based on the amendments made by the state government last year in the Karnataka Epidemic Diseases Regulations, 2020. Notices are being issued after daily inspections to establishments that have breeding sites," said a BBMP official from the Health Department.

BBMP is imposing a fine of Rs 4,000 in case of mosquito breeding detected at active or abandoned construction sites in the city. Households with mosquito breeding spots are being fined Rs 800, and Rs 2,000 is being imposed on commercial establishments, including offices, colleges, healthcare facilities, supermarkets, cinema theatres, etc.

Awareness sessions in schools

Following a direction issued by the Directorate of Health and Family Welfare Services, the BBMP will start dengue awareness sessions in government and private schools across the city.

According to the Health Department, the sessions will be conducted by local health authorities for teachers, school staff, and students regarding dengue prevention methods and their role in preventing infection will begin from June 2.

A nodal teacher (preferably a science teacher) will be trained in inspecting the school premises regularly. However, a group of students from each class can daily take up search & source reduction activities on the premises.

"We will be talking about how rainwater collections, both rooftop and on the premises, of educational institutions facilitate Aedes mosquito breeding, increasing the risk of dengue transmission among students, teachers, and staff members. We will be educating them about ways to keep themselves safe from Aedes mosquitoes, which are predominantly day-biters," said the official.

The advisory by the Directorate of Health and Family Welfare Services also suggests advising students to wear clothes to fully cover their upper and lower limbs, to prevent mosquito bites. Moreover, all water storage containers should be kept covered and inspected regularly for breeding sites.

Solid waste material, such as unused tyres of vehicles, etc., that may collect rainwater should be regularly disposed of. Ornamental plant holders containing water should be checked for Aedes breeding grounds. It also suggests the introduction of larvivorous fish into ornamental fountains/tanks, if any.

"Additionally, considering the flight range and day biting habit of Aedes mosquitoes, care should be taken to ensure that residential areas/houses/ vacant sites adjacent to educational institutions are free of Aedes breeding too. We will be visiting both government & private education institutions to ensure compliance. BBMP may also provide required support to educational institutions, in making the premises Aedes breeding free," said the official.

The Palike has also trained nearly 7,000 pourakarmikas to be on the lookout for potential breeding sites and keep Health Department officials informed.

'Police can't ask for call detail records without probe'

The High Court declined to dismiss a criminal case against police sub inspector Vidya MV, who allegedly obtained Call Detail Records (CDR) of a woman unlawfully.

Justice Suraj Govindaraj, presiding over a vacation bench, stated, "No police officer just by being a police officer can call for any CDR of any citizen of the country, without there being any investigation." The accused had petitioned to dismiss charges under sections 354(d), 409, 506, 509 of the Indian Penal Code and sections 66(D) and 66(E) of the Information Technology Act. The case originated from a Magistrate court's directive following a private complaint by Bhavana S.

The complainant alleged that the petitioner and other accused obtained her CDR without authorisation and shared it with a co-accused, against whom she had filed a separate complaint.

Advocate Satynarayan Chalke, representing the petitioner, contended that the CDR was obtained during official duties and argued that without sanctions under Section 197 CrPC and Section 170 of Karnataka Police Act, criminal proceedings were invalid.

The court noted that CDR records are private information protected under the Right to Privacy, as established in Justice Puttaswamy's case. The bench remarked, "We can't give such powers to a police officer to call for call records otherwise it will become a police state." –BMB

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Man loses ₹15L to note con

A case of fraud involving so-called RBI-rejected currency notes has come to light, with Peenya police arresting four members of a Chitradurga-based gang, including a head constable, for cheating a retired bank employee of 15 lakh by promising him 51 lakh in return.

The prime accused, Kiran alias Ranjith, along with Gajendra, Prabhu, and Nagaraj—a head constable from Hiriyur police station—allegedly lured victim, 65, with claims that they possessed bundles of currency notes rejected by the RBI, which could be exchanged at a profit. The offer: Give 15 lakh and receive 51 lakh in return. The man arranged the cash and handed it over to the gang. But, when the promised money never arrived, and the accused began threatening him, he approached the police. The Peenya police laid a trap and nabbed the accused red-handed. –BMB

CM raps officials on key failures

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Friday came down heavily on officials for the lack of satisfactory progress on critical developmental and administrative issues across the state. Chairing a high-level review meeting, he raised serious concerns over rampant lake encroachments, delayed caste certificate issuance, poor performance in government schools, and pending land allotments for public infrastructure.

The CM revealed that a total of 10,931 lakes in the state are under encroachment, of which only 6,065 have been cleared so far. Despite clear instructions during the previous meeting to survey all lakes and remove encroachments, progress has been far from satisfactory. He directed officials to immediately take up a fresh survey of all lakes, clear remaining encroachments, and put in place a proper system to ensure the smooth flow of rainwater into these lakes. He further instructed the Chief Secretary to initiate disciplinary action against Deputy Commissioners who fail to act effectively in this regard.

On the issue of rising crimes against children, the CM stated that 1,395 POCSO (Protection of Children from Sexual Offences) cases have been registered in the state this year alone. He emphasised the need for stringent legal action in such cases and asked officials to ensure that criminal proceedings are promptly initiated and that the accused are appropriately punished.

Expressing concern over poor SSLC and PUC results in government schools despite ongoing infrastructure development, he called for a thorough introspection. He reminded Deputy Commissioners and CEOs that improving academic outcomes in their respective districts is their direct responsibility. He specifically questioned why the Kalyana Karnataka region continues to underperform in educational outcomes despite receiving significant funding. He instructed all district-level education administrators to closely monitor the quality of education and ensure tangible improvement.

Furthermore, the CM emphasised the importance of prioritising land allotments for essential public services, including schools, hospitals, anganwadis, crematoriums, and burial grounds. He said there should be no delays in providing land for these purposes under any circumstances. Currently, land is required for 1,858 rural anganwadis, 5,187 urban anganwadis, and 14 government colleges, all of which must be addressed on a priority basis. On forest rights, he pointed out that although 2,95,176 applications have been submitted, only 16,700 forest rights certificates have been issued so far. He directed officials to process and dispose of these applications at the earliest. — BMB

Woman-led gang attacks biz rival

A salon rivalry spiralled into an act of violence on Wednesday night when a gang led by a woman barged into a spa on Bhuvaneshwari Nagar Main Road and assaulted a staff member.

The victim, Sanju, a former employee of Kavya's Poetry Salon, had recently quit to start his spa along with his wife. Enraged by his move, Kavya, accompanied by aides Mohammed, Smita, and two unidentified persons, allegedly stormed into the premises around 8 pm on Thursday.

The victim stated in his complaint that Kavya grabbed him by the collar, accusing him of cheating their associate. She assaulted him along with Mohammad and two unidentified men.

In the video, Kavya is seen kicking Sanju while others joined in, attacking him with machetes and beer bottles. After the initial assault, the gang bundled Sanju into a car and drove him towards Jakkuru via Dasarahalli Main Road.

In his complaint to the Amruthahalli Police, Sanju stated that the gang continued to torture him. They even ripped out the CCTV cables from the spa to destroy evidence. Sanju's wife, after reviewing partial CCTV footage, approached the police. In response, Amruthahalli police traced one of the gang members and made a warning call. The gang then abandoned Sanju near the police station late that night. An FIR has been registered against Kavya, Mohammed, Smita, and two others under multiple sections, including kidnapping, assault. — BMB

Youth held for bakery damage

A 23-year-old youth was arrested by the Suddaguntepalya police for allegedly creating chaos at a bakery after being denied free tea and cigarettes. The incident occurred on May 26 at a bakery in Krishnamurthy Layout, Tavarekere Main Road.

The accused, identified as Ashwanth Kumar, a resident of Tavarekere and a native of Tamil Nadu, reportedly barged into the bakery and demanded tea and cigarettes without payment. When the bakery owner refused, Kumar allegedly flew into a rage, began throwing items around, broke glass jars, and used foul language.

The situation escalated when the shop owner warned Kumar that he would file a police complaint. In response, Kumar allegedly hurled abuses at a police officer who was nearby and tried to intervene.

Based on a complaint filed by the bakery owner, Kumar was taken into custody. The police have booked him under multiple sections for causing public nuisance, damaging property, and verbally abusing a public servant. — BMB

Minister recommends suspension in forest case

Forest Minister seeks disciplinary action, including removal of senior IFS officer, for filing a Supreme Court plea on HMT forest land without Cabinet nod

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Karnataka Forest, Ecology, and Environment Minister Eshwar B Khandre announced that disciplinary action has been recommended against four officials, two retired and two serving officers from the Indian Forest Service (IFS) and Indian Administrative Service (IAS), for their involvement in the controversial proposal submitted to the Supreme Court without Cabinet approval.

Khandre stated that over ₹14,000 crore worth of HMT land, which falls under forest classification, has not been officially converted for non-forest purposes. "As per multiple Supreme Court judgments and the Forest Conservation Act of 1980, this land still qualifies as forest. However, real estate firms have constructed hundreds of flats on it, film and television shoots are being held, and the land is being used for commercial purposes. This raises serious questions about how such usage was permitted," he said.

> **Real estate firms have constructed hundreds of flats on it. This raises serious questions about how such usage was permitted**
> – Eshwar BK, Minister

When asked why no action had been taken seven months after notices were issued to the officials involved, Khandre responded, "This forest land under HMT is the property of 7 crore Kannadigas. Yet, a few officers, without bringing it to the then Forest Minister's notice or seeking prior Cabinet approval, filed an Interlocutory Application (IA) in the Supreme Court requesting denotification."

Plan for urban park

Khandre announced that the state government intends to develop a major urban park on the HMT forest land in North Bengaluru. "Our goal is to preserve lung space for future generations. I had made this intention clear even before filing the IA withdrawal petition in the Supreme Court," he stated.

He confirmed that notices had been served to four officials and that he had formally recommended action to the Chief Minister, including the suspension of a senior IFS officer. In a related development, Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests R Gokul has written to the CBI seeking protection, alleging that he is being made a scapegoat for penalising ruling party MLAs in the Belikeri illegal mining case. Responding to this, Khandre dismissed Gokul's claims as "completely false accusations against the government."

The Minister revealed that he had written to the Additional Chief Secretary on September 24, 2024, instructing that action be taken against the officials who filed the IA without Cabinet approval. The Belikeri judgment was handed down a month later, in October 2024. "Gokul is now levelling false charges against the government to cover up his misconduct. This can be seen as either misbehaviour or an intimidation tactic," said Khandre.

He also revealed that he inspected the HMT land and found around 280 acres of dense forest still intact. "Despite this, the IA submitted to the Supreme Court a false claim that the land had lost its forest characteristics. If Gokul truly believed in the sanctity of the land, why didn't he write to the Chief Minister instead of the CBI?" he questioned.

Framed: Department orders inquiry into wrongful probe

Man falsely implicated in drug case is discharged by court amid serious investigation lapses; he plans to seek legal action, citing police harassment and personal vendetta

Atiya Firdos
c-syeda.atiya
@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Once named as Accused No 3 in a drug case under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, Murali has been officially discharged by the court after it was found that he had been falsely implicated. The case, registered at the DJ Halli Police Station, has now triggered an internal inquiry into potential lapses and misconduct by the investigating officers.

The case, filed under Section 20(b)(ii)(C) of the NDPS Act, involves charges related to possession and trade of ganja (cannabis) in commercial quantity. The law carries a minimum punishment of 10 years, which may extend up to 20 years, along with a fine starting from ₹1 lakh.

Initially, the police arrested an African national, Sonu (A1), and later named Murali and another person as absconding co-accused. A chargesheet filed in July 2023 alleged that all three were involved in the drug trade.

The court found no prima facie evidence, accepted the defence, discharged the accused, and recalled the non-bailable warrants

Court flags investigation lapses

However, during proceedings at the Additional City Civil and Sessions Court (NDPS Special Court), the judge noted serious flaws in the investigation. Sonu's statement mentioned an African accomplice and a man named Murali, but there was no specific identification of Murali as A3.

No drugs were recovered from Murali, and his name appeared only in the final report, without any evidence or investigation records linking him to the crime. The court questioned how police obtained his full address without any formal inquiry or statements.

The judge criticised the lack of effort to trace or interrogate Murali, stating that his inclusion in the case appeared baseless and unjustified.

Personal dispute

Murali's lawyer argued that his client was falsely implicated due to a personal dispute. He told the court that Murali was involved in a matrimonial case, and his wife, allegedly related to a senior police officer, may have influenced the case against him as a form of retaliation.

The court found no prima facie evidence against Murali, accepted the defence's arguments, and officially discharged him from the case. The Non-Bailable Warrants issued against him were also recalled.

Disciplinary inquiry initiated

Murali had first filed a formal complaint with the Commissioner of Police and the Deputy Commissioner of Police (East) on October 30, 2023, seeking clarity on the case. Following his discharge, he submitted a second complaint on March 18, reiterating his concerns and requesting clarity on the case.

In response, officials confirmed that they have acknowledged the court's verdict and forwarded the matter for departmental action against the officer responsible for wrongly implicating him. A disciplinary inquiry has also been initiated.

"I suffered a lot, my unwell and aged parents went through mental harassment, and I lost my dignity in the community because of the police brutality. I will file a defamation case and ensure justice is served. This is not about financial compensation; that's why I'm going ahead with criminal defamation. This kind of harassment of innocent people must stop," he said while speaking to BM.

Farmhouse boom: Green retreats offer profits, peace, and growth

For those seeking to spend their leisure days amidst lush greenery, there is no better option than owning a farmhouse. As demand rises, many urban dwellers are investing in fertile farmland with existing farmhouses, cultivating crops like flowers, fruits, vegetables, and spices. This not only generates income but also offers a peaceful retreat away from the city's concrete jungle.

The desire to escape the hustle and bustle of city life is driving a growing trend: investing in farmland with farmhouses on the outskirts of urban areas. With concerns about pollution, cramped apartments, and fast-paced lifestyles, more people are choosing weekend retreats that offer both serenity and long-term value. These farmlands provide not just a break from the city, but also a chance to reconnect with nature.

In particular, farmland located just five minutes from the Mysuru-Bengaluru highway has emerged as a hotspot for such investments. Experts highlight the strategic location, citing enhanced infrastructure projects such as the upcoming Mysuru Peripheral Ring Road, which have improved

connectivity and significantly reduced travel time to just 15 minutes from Mysuru.

Property developers in the region are offering attractive deals that combine lifestyle and profitability. "One investment here can bring fourfold benefits," said a real estate expert. "Buyers can enjoy a peaceful retreat, engage in farming, benefit from capital appreciation, and enjoy resort-like amenities provided by developers."

These lands offer diverse cultivation options tailored to investor preferences. For those interested in aromatic and high-value crops, sandalwood and champa trees are being cultivated with proper security and care. Where once security concerns made such farming difficult, developers now provide round-the-clock surveillance and professional maintenance, ensuring both safety and ease of management.

For urban buyers not inclined toward active farming, many projects offer managed cultivation services, allowing them to enjoy the returns without day-to-day involvement. Some properties even come with pre-constructed farmhouses and shared access to swimming pools, clubhouses, and gardens.

The combination of natural beauty, financial return, and low-maintenance living has drawn interest from investors in Bengaluru, Mysuru, and other surrounding cities. As property values in the region continue to rise, these farmlands are increasingly being seen not just as luxury escapes but as smart, future-proof investments.

–Prakash VL

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Bengaluru premium housing sees 11.2% YoY growth surge

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Bengaluru's residential real estate market remains on a strong growth trajectory, with the premium housing segment emerging as the city's key growth engine. According to the newly released Bangalore Premium CY 2024 Report by NKlusive, the segment registered a significant 11.2% year-on-year increase, reflecting the city's continued appeal among aspirational homebuyers seeking lifestyle-oriented living.

Premium residential developments, priced between ₹7,000 and ₹15,000 per sq. ft., made up more than 52.8% of all new housing supply in 2024. The city recorded 94,126 new premium units launched over the year, marking a 16.3% annual rise in supply. Demand also remained strong, with absorption levels reaching 53%, indicating sustained interest from serious homebuyers.

In contrast, the affordable housing segment—homes priced below ₹7,000 per sq. ft.—showed signs of slowing down, with marginally declining sales. Meanwhile, luxury and uber-luxury categories continued to grow, driven by increasing disposable incomes and changing lifestyle aspirations. Compact luxury homes, especially in East and Central Bengaluru, gained traction among upwardly mobile professionals and nuclear families looking for urban living with better amenities and connectivity.

The growing preference for 3 and 3.5 BHK homes underlines the shift in buyer priorities, with more families seeking spacious, multifunctional residences. The work-from-home culture and evolving family dynamics have accelerated this demand for larger homes that offer flexibility.

Whitefield, North Bengaluru, and select parts of South-East Bengaluru maintained a healthy balance between supply and demand. In these micro-markets, 3 BHK units dominated both new launches and sales volumes, reaffirming their popularity among mid-to-upper-income homebuyers.

The report also highlights a 4% rise in the weighted average price in the premium category, climbing from ₹13,284 to ₹14,000 per sq. ft. Industry experts attribute this to Bengaluru's maturing real estate landscape, bolstered by ongoing infrastructure improvements, better connectivity, and a steadily growing base of affluent buyers.

As the city continues to evolve, stakeholders' developers, investors, and end-users alike remain optimistic. With 2025 on the horizon, Bengaluru's premium housing segment is poised to remain a cornerstone of the city's vibrant and resilient property market.

Mysore Road emerges as Bengaluru's real estate hotspot

The areas surrounding Mysore Road are witnessing a significant real estate boom, driven by multiple development projects. The expansion of the metro and other infrastructure developments has significantly increased the demand for residential sites in this region.

The transformation of the Bengaluru-Mysore Corridor—particularly with the elevated expressway—has been pivotal in reshaping the real estate landscape along Mysore Road. This once-quiet stretch is fast emerging as a bustling hub of growth, attracting both investors and homebuyers alike.

From high-rise residential complexes to shopping malls, educational institutions to hospitals, the Mysore Road region is undergoing rapid urbanisation. These developments are not only increasing the area's appeal but also pushing land values to record highs.

"The value of land in this area has surged by up to 250%, thanks to the various infrastructure initiatives," said Sanjay R, a city-based realtor. "The metro expansion, road upgrades, and the proposed international airport have all added to the allure of the locality. We're seeing a significant uptick in demand for residential plots, especially from those seeking both smart investments and quality living spaces."

One of the most impactful projects has been the metro line extension connecting the region to Chalakkatt, drastically improving public transportation options. With improved access, buyers are now prioritising sites along Mysore Road, expecting high returns in the future as the area continues to evolve.

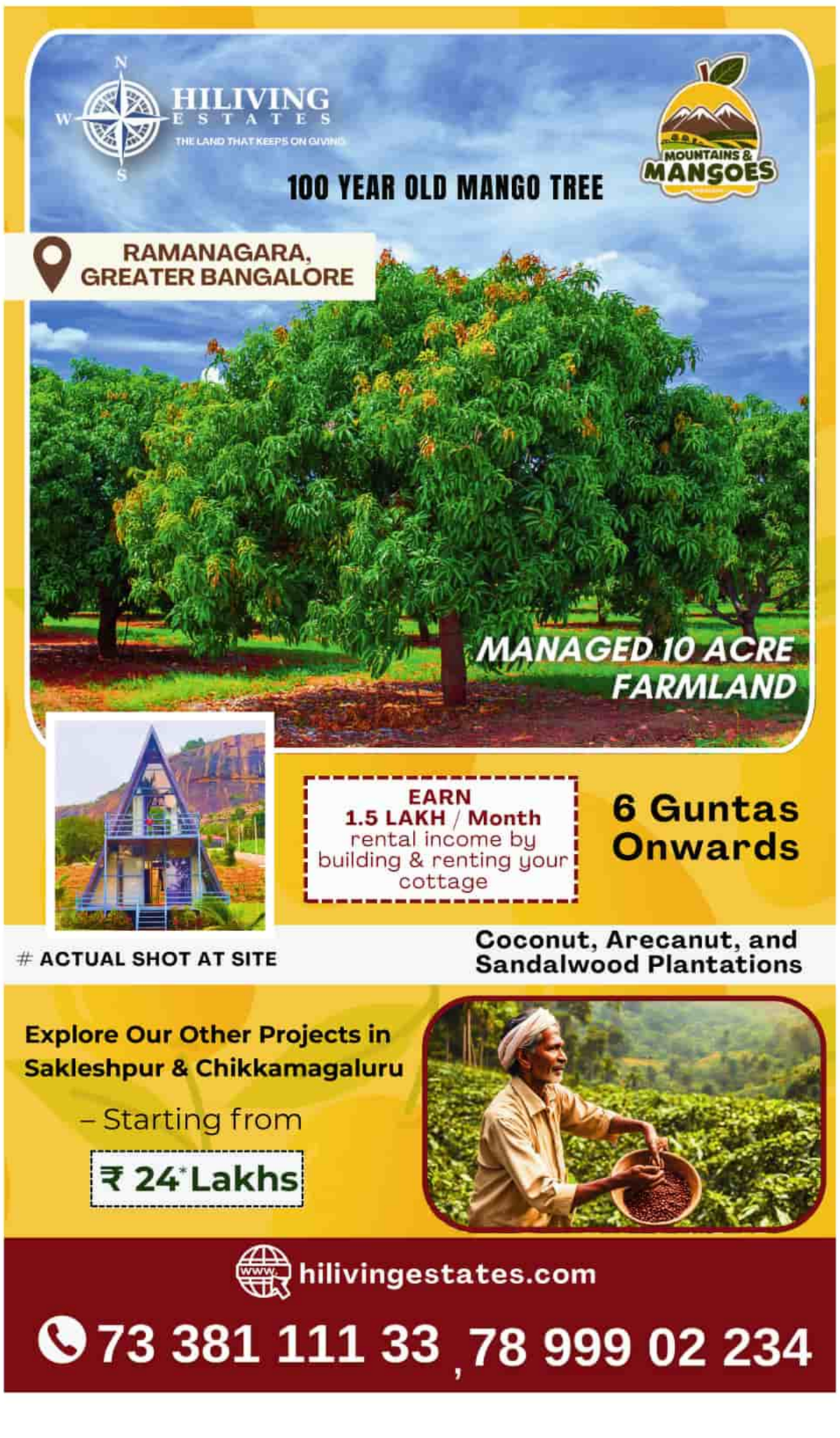
Adding to this momentum is the ongoing construction of a 120-foot-wide road that runs along Mysore Road, as well as the upcoming Satellite Town Ring Road (STRR), which is expected to further ease traffic and enhance regional connectivity. Satya Narayana, another realtor, noted, "The STRR and road widening projects make it easier to reach surrounding towns like Ramanagaram, Magadi, and even coastal hubs like Mangalore. The planned integration with the Bengaluru Suburban Railway Network will also bring a massive boost to mobility."

Beyond infrastructure, the presence of reputed educational institutions such as Vikas International School, Tyagaraja Central School, and Dakshinam Institute for Higher Education is making the region more attractive for families. Nearby recreational spots like Manchinabele Dam and the rise of modern retail centres are also contributing to its growing popularity.

Further fuelling the area's growth is the proximity to major industrial players such as Toyota, Bosch, and Hindustan Coca-Cola. The development of automotive and technology hubs in the vicinity is creating jobs and demand for housing, thus reinforcing Mysore Road's potential as a prime residential and investment zone.

With its strategic location, excellent connectivity, and booming infrastructure, Mysore Road is fast emerging as one of Bengaluru's most promising real estate destinations. For those looking to invest in a future-ready locality, the time to act might just be now.

–Prakash VL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THE LAND THAT KEEPS ON GIVING
MOUNTAINS & MANGOES
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RAMANAGARA, GREATER BANGALORE
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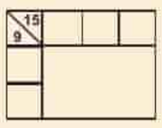
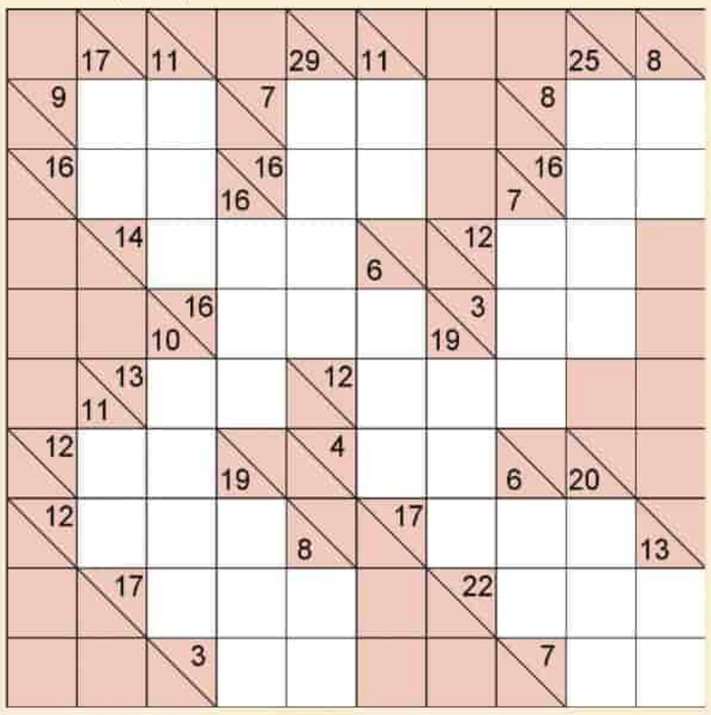
Kakuro

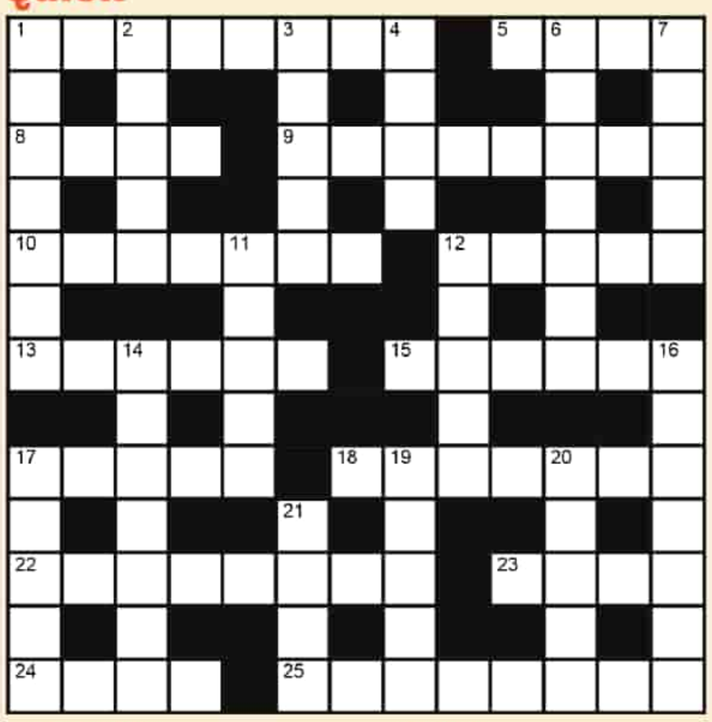
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Eliminate (5,3)
5 Corrosive chemical? (4)
8 A room over a barn (4)
9 Little Corporal (8)
10 Musically brisk (7)
12 Recurrent period (5)
13 Surprise attack (6)
15 Cad (6)
17 Hurts (5)
18 Home of the Gods in Greek mythology (7)
22 Passing along (8)
23 Dejected (4)
24 A speech disorder (4)
25 Evicted an alien (8)

DOWN

1 Capital of West Bengal (7)
2 Entrails, etc (5)
3 Proprietor (5)
4 Record (4)
6 A hair style (4,3)
7 Slow student (5)
11 Catches breath, strains for air (5)
12 A close friend or a bosom pal (5)
14 Tourist destination home to the Ranganatha Swamy Temple (1,1,5)
16 Restarted (7)
17 Of the ear (5)
19 Help in mounting (3-2)
20 Fly an aircraft (5)
21 Gentle in temper (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: T EQUALS G

XURQBP SF U EBBDSKT YXSOX DBUPF RA RXB BVRSKORSAK AE WUDIBF.

Linemaro

I am single and desolate. Can you help me?

Mindchow

Man gives every reason for his conduct save one, every excuse for his crimes save one, every plea for his safety save one; and that one is his cowardice.

Joke of the day

I have just returned from Boston. It's the only thing to do if you find yourself up there

Loop

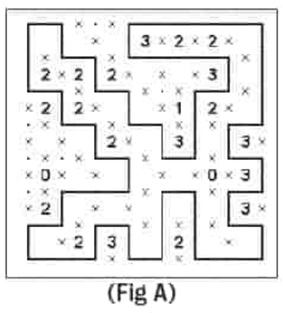
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

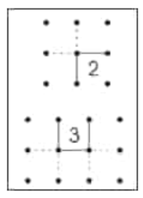
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

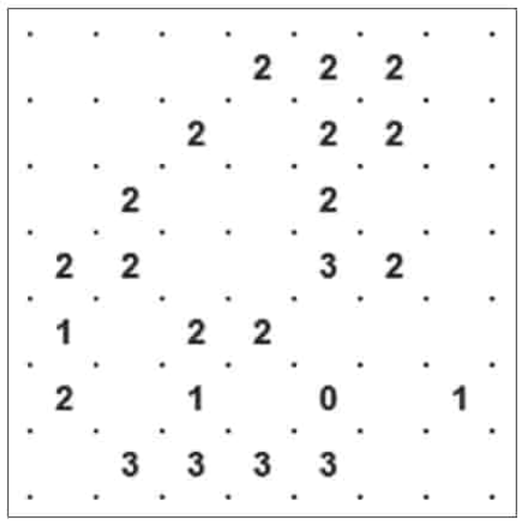
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



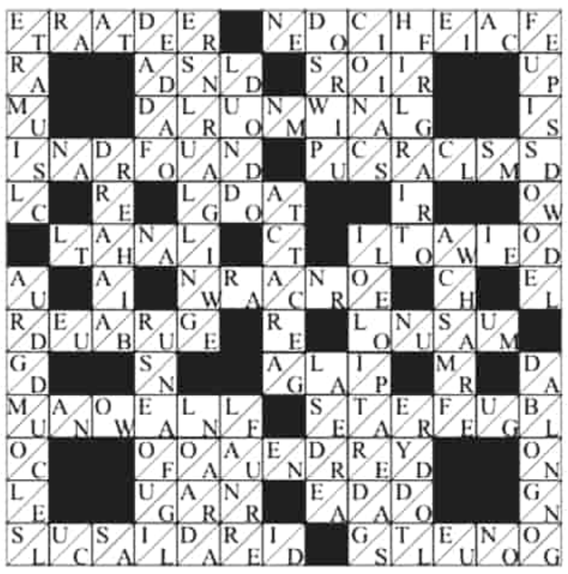
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



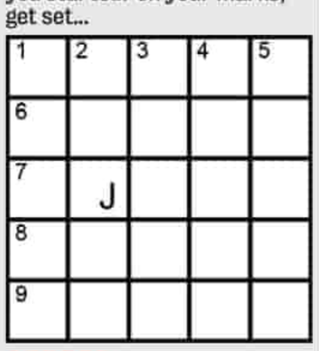
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

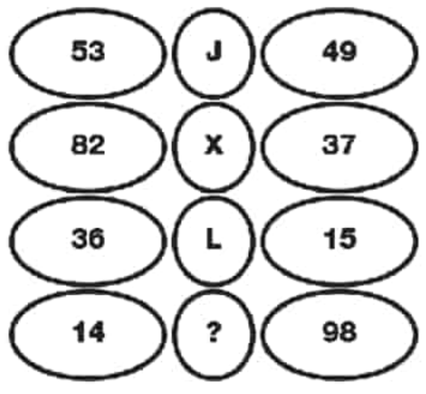
1 Shade; 6 Maine;
7 CE jet; 8 Totem;
9 Ess us

DOWN

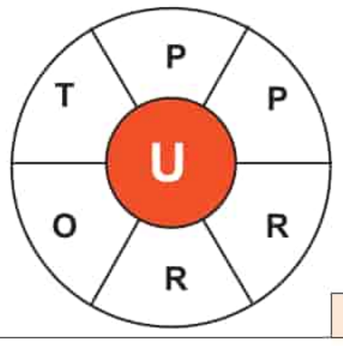
1 Shame; 2 Juno a;
3 Tides; 4 Me EEC;
5 Tests

Mensapuzzle

Which letter replaces the question mark and completes the grid?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

04 Average; 05 Good; 06 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

	5		4		3	7		
	6		8					
7				6	5		8	
6		9	1					
	2	4				1	3	
					6	8		9
	9		7	5				3
					1		7	
		1	2		9		5	

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 19

2 3 5 9

Medium = 12

3 7 7 9

Hard = 60

2 3 3 7

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

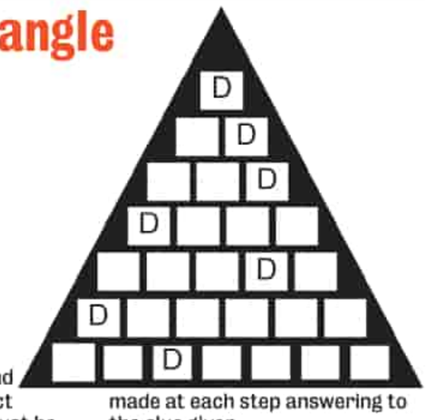
Differences: 1. Woman is moved. 2. Arm is lower. 3. Stripes on scarf are different. 4. Branch is different. 5. Windowsill is missing. 6. Mouth is not open as wide.

Riddler

Three kinds of apples are mixed randomly in a box. How many apples must you take out to be sure of having at least two apples of one kind?

Alpha triangle

1 Five hundred
2 Anno Domini
3 Horrid
4 Lacklustre
5 Minstrels
6 Excludes
7 Pesters



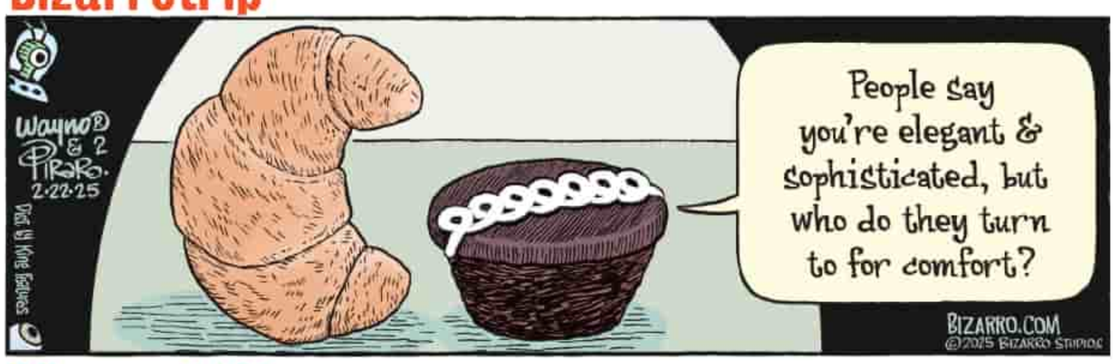
Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE »

COMICS

Popeye

Bizarrotrip



Diamond Lil

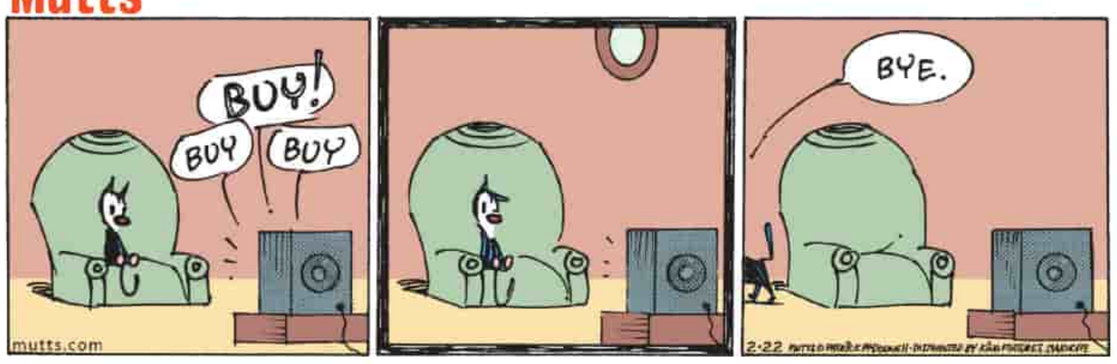
Hart of the city

LOOKS LIKE SOMEONE AT SCHOOL GOT THE MEASLES.
MEASLES?! FROM, LIKE, THE 1800s?? HOW MANY OTHER ANCIENT VIRUSES ARE GONNA COME BACK?
WHAT'S NEXT? PNEUMONIA?!
PNEUMONIA NEVER LEFT, BRENT.
IT'S ALREADY STARTING!!

Crankshaft

TRUST ME, ED... SLATHERING MY BACK WITH WARM OATMEAL DOES THE TRICK EVERY TIME!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S WORSE... HAVING YOUR BACK GO OUT...
OR GETTING ADVICE ON HOW TO HELP IT!
BUT ONLY USE STEEL-CUT OATMEAL!

Mutts



WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
A lack of sleep may leave you feeling dull and scattered, affecting your focus and work efficiency. A visit to a religious place might bring peace of mind. By evening, blessings from elders may help you reflect on past mistakes and plan better for the future. Take extra care of your parents' health.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
You may feel dull until late afternoon, impacting your productivity. However, with elders' support, your focus and energy may return. Be attentive to your child's health. You're likely to be in a stronger position against opponents. Investors should be cautious with major financial decisions. Stomach-related issues could cause discomfort.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
You're likely to feel upbeat at work today. Important decisions made later in the day may benefit your future. A short trip is possible. Support from subordinates and good news about a sibling's achievements may boost your spirits. Legal matters might turn in your favor, and students will be more goal-oriented.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Your communication skills may shine today, enhancing your professional life. A polite and cooperative attitude may accelerate the completion of tasks. Lovebirds may exchange heartfelt thoughts, strengthening their bond.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
You are blessed by the Moon today. New partnerships may bring financial benefits. High energy and enthusiasm will drive productivity and gains. Your self-respect may protect you from negativity and distractions.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
You may reconnect with old friends or attend social events. Innovation and excitement could spark new business ideas. Unexpected material gains are possible. Children may share good academic news, and lovebirds may enjoy meaningful moments together.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Your creativity is at its peak. You may plan home or office renovations and purchase items to boost your social image. Harmony may prevail in your domestic life. Disputes with friends, coworkers, or partners may be resolved. Legal matters are likely to see favorable progress.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Joy surrounds you as you balance income and expenses, improving financial stability. Your network may play a key role in executing your plans. Siblings and subordinates will likely be supportive. Visiting elders or a religious place could bring blessings and clarity.

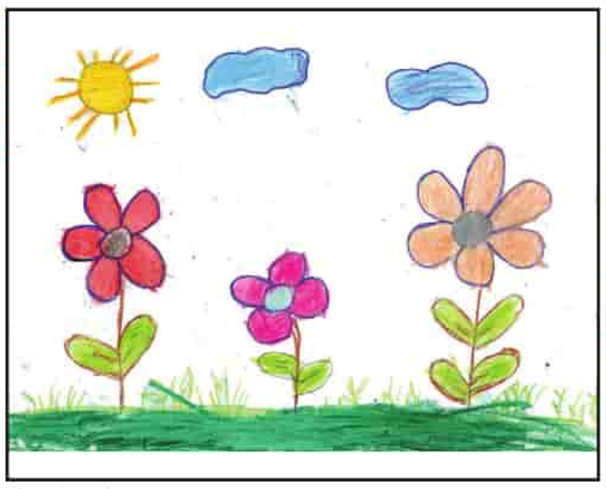
Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
With the Moon's blessings, success may come with little effort. Small investments could yield significant profits. Efficiency at work will improve, and favorable news in legal matters is expected. You may have strong control over rivals and competitors today.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
The day brings positive energy. Even small efforts may result in great rewards. Past investments might yield returns, and your reputation could rise at work and home. You may initiate innovations in business. Disputes with your spouse may be peacefully resolved.

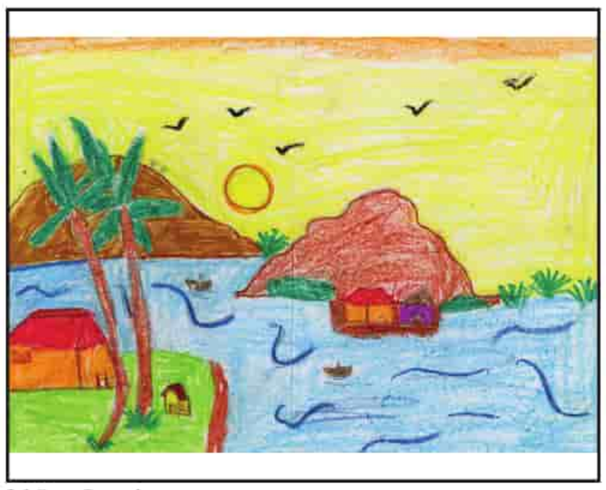
Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
You may feel more in control and optimistic today. Professional connections might help you advance in your career. Plans for overseas travel may begin. Harmony in your home and love life is likely. You may feel inspired to decorate your home or enjoy time with loved ones watching movies or dining out.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Overwork may leave you feeling tired, lazy, or inattentive. Try to be patient and avoid adventurous travel today. Past investments might underperform, possibly becoming dead stock. Students should remain focused. Health concerns such as back pain, nervous tension, or skin issues may arise—take proper care

KIDZONE



Diya, Bengaluru



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SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
$\sqrt[9]{(3^9)^9 \times (3^9)^{-9}}$
$3^8 \times 3^{-8}$
$3^{-1} = \frac{1}{3}$

QUOTE UNCODE
Hatred is a feeling which leads to the extinction of values.

RIDDLER Four. If the apples are A, B, and C, it's possible that you could take out one A, one B and one C with three apples, but the fourth apple must be one of the three kinds.

FAST FIVE

S	E	E	S	H
T	E	C	J	E
E	M	I	N	A
S	E	D	A	H
S	U	S	O	M

STRIKE OUT

T	R	A	D	E	E	D	I	F	I	C	E			
A	N	D		R	O	I		P						
M		D	R	O	N	I	N	G		T				
A	N	D		R	O		P	S	A	L	M	S		
C		U	R	N		A	D	O			N			
		F	O	U	N	D	R	Y			O			
U	N	W	E	L	L		E	A	R	F	U	L		
D	E	B	U	G		A	L	P		R		A		
A		A		N	A	C	R	E		H		E		
	T	H	A	I		C		L	O	W	E	D		
L		E		G	O	A			R			O		
I	N	R	O	A	D		P	S	A	L	M	S		
M		D	R	O	N	I	N	G		T				
A	N	D		R	O	I		P						
T	R	A	D	E		E	D	I	F	I	C	E		

QUICK

L	I	S	P		D	E	P	O	R	T	E	D		
A		L		L		U		L		O		E		
U		I		M		E		I		I		U		
A	C	H	E	S		O	L	Y	M	P	U	S		
		R		P		N				O		E		
A	M	B	U	S	H		R	O	T	T	E	R		
T				A		R				U				
A	L	L	E	G	R	O		C	Y	C	L	E		
K		A		E		W		C						
L	O	F	T		N	A	P	O	L	E	O	N		
O			W		A				R			U		
K	N	O	C	K	O	U	T		A	C	I	D		

BULL'S EYE pour, pout, PURPORT, rout, tour

MENSA PUZZLE
C. In each row, calculate the difference between the 2 numbers in the left hand column, and the 2 numbers in the right hand column. Multiply these differences together to give the numerical value of the letter in the centre.

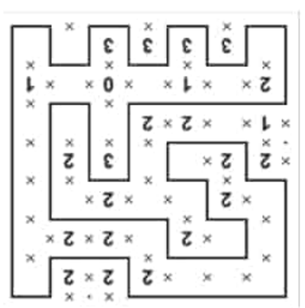
SUDOKU

9	5	8	4	1	3	7	6	2
1	6	3	8	7	2	4	9	5
7	4	2	9	6	5	3	8	1
6	3	9	1	8	4	5	2	7
8	2	4	5	9	7	1	3	6
5	1	7	3	2	6	8	4	9
4	9	6	7	5	8	2	1	3
2	8	5	6	3	1	9	7	4
3	7	1	2	4	9	6	5	8

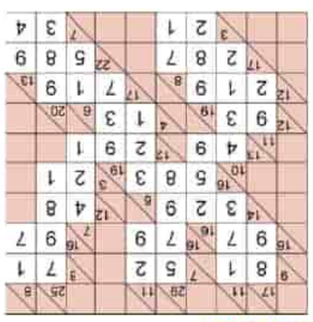
ALPHA TRIANGLE
D, AD, Bad, Drab, Bards, Debars, Badgers.

GO FIGURE
Easy
5 + 2 + 9 + 3 = 19
Medium
7 + 9 – 7 + 3 = 12
Hard
7 + 3 x 3 x 2 = 60

LOOP



KAKURO



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HC directs state to frame SOP for drinking water facilities

The High Court has instructed the State Government to develop a detailed Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for maintaining drinking water facilities that serve the state's citizens.

A division bench comprising Chief Justice NV Anjaria and Justice KV Aravind stated, "The State has a fundamental duty to supply drinking water fit for human consumption. Access to clean water is not charity, it is a constitutional promise woven into the fabric of fundamental rights. Every individual's right to life encompasses the right to access pure and safe drinking water."

This directive came whilst resolving a public interest litigation filed by advocate Ramesh Naik L regarding drinking water contamination across various districts in the State.

The court acknowledged that the petitioner's concerns about water contamination due to inadequate facility maintenance warranted serious attention.

Addressing the state government's water infrastructure, the court noted, "The mere establishment of infrastructure for the supply of drinking water does not absolve the State of its constitutional obligation unless such infrastructure is maintained periodically and scientifically to ensure the continuous supply of pure and safe drinking water."

The water supply infrastructure comprises purification plants, underground tanks, overhead tanks, pipelines, borewells, and Reverse Osmosis (RO) plants.

The court emphasised that these facilities require regular scientific maintenance.

The bench directed

"The State Government shall prepare a comprehensive Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for the maintenance of the facilities as directed... The said SOP shall be submitted to this Court for perusal and compliance within two months from the date of this order."

The court noted that whilst the State provided details about existing water supply infrastructure, information about facility maintenance was notably absent.

The bench stated, "Even if the infrastructure is in place, the failure to maintain it, thereby depriving individuals of access to pure drinking water, amounts to a failure on the part of the State to discharge its constitutional obligations."

The court concluded by stating, "The responsibility for ensuring such compliance should be fixed on the concerned authorities. Accordingly, this Court deems it appropriate to direct the Deputy Commissioner of the respective District to oversee and ensure compliance with the maintenance of the facilities, as well as the proper upkeep of records documenting such compliance.". —BMB

40-mt cable gone, electric equipment vandalised

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

broken electrical pipes

is open for miscreants to create nuisance at night on the lake bund. We have also informed Puttenahalli Police about the missing electrical equipment,'' said Rajagopalan.

She said the authorities concerned must take measures to rehabilitate people residing at a slum adjacent to the lake. "A liquor outlet was opened near the lake last year. It has become convenient for drunkards to buy liquor from the MRP outlet and misuse the lake land for boozing,'' she said.

Stating that it is crucial to protect our lakes, especially during monsoon, as they play a vital role in recharging the water table and mitigating urban floods, Vinod Jacob of Namma Bengaluru Foundation said Puttenahalli Lake, which has been beautifully restored into a bio-diversified haven by committed citizens, must be safeguarded from any encroachment. "We urge the authorities to ensure round-the-clock security at all of Namma Bengaluru's lakes to preserve these critical ecosystems,'' he said.

Sapana Rawat, a resident of the area, said vandalising of electrical equipment is a regular occurrence here. "I was told by home guards that vandalism takes place at night. If that is the case, the authorities must assign home guards to keep a vigil on the miscreants at night. I also see cattle entering the lake area during the day. If home guards are vigilant, how can that happen?'' she said.

1 wedding, employment to hundreds

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

extra income," said NR Yuvaraj, manager of a community hall.

Compared to a decade ago, the cost of weddings has nearly doubled. In 2015, a typical wedding — including venue, gold, clothing, catering, and groceries — would cost around ₹8 to ₹10 lakh. Now, hosting a wedding with similar grandeur requires a minimum budget of ₹20 lakh. From silk shirts and dhotis to wedding sarees, everything has become significantly more expensive.

"The wedding dates this year are evenly spread across months, except for July and September which have no auspicious dates. However, bookings for October have already begun," Yuvaraj added.

The skyrocketing price of gold has become one of the most pressing concerns for families. Back in 2015, 10 grams of 24-carat gold cost ₹26,343. By 2020, this had increased to ₹48,651. In April 2025, the same quantity of gold was priced at ₹94,630 — a nearly 40% increase contributing significantly to wedding expenses.

"We had planned to buy 10 tolas of gold when our daughter's wedding was fixed in January, when gold was around ₹65,000. But by April, the price had surged by ₹30,000. We spent ₹15 lakh on the wedding, out of which ₹7 lakh went just for gold," said G Girish, a resident of Rajajinagar. Because of this price hike, many families, particularly from the middle class, have reduced their gold purchases. Parents who initially intended to buy five tolas are now settling for three or four; others are compromising on quantity to manage costs.

Kalyana Mantapas (wedding halls) in the city are fully booked for the current season. Some venues are already booked till March 2026. June has auspicious dates until the 8th, after which there will be a brief lull.

Wedding season is not just about rituals — it's an engine of economic activity. On average, one wedding provides employment to at least 100 people — from head chefs and their assistants to decorators, lighting crews, tent suppliers, and water service staff.

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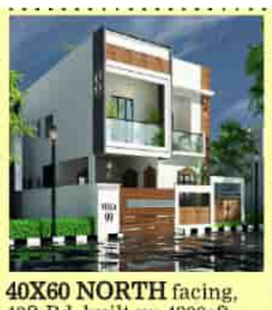

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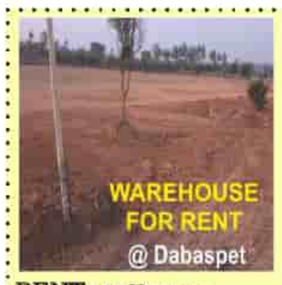

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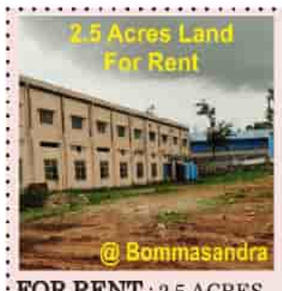

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personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Mohamed Saqlain Ali Khan S/o Asghar Khan #2 Bngaluru-01 have changed my name to Mohammed Saqlain Ali Khan for all purposes.

I, NEETA DABRAL SANTOSHKUMAR D/O Kishin Lalsing Ajwani aged about 59 years R/at T-706,Purva Park Apartment,No.53,MSO Colony, Cox Town, Bengaluru-560005 have changed my name to NEETA DABRAL vide affidavit dtd:27/05/2025 sworn before notary Uday Kumar K, B'luru.

I Rahul Sachan S/O, Ran Vijay Sachan R/o Flat No 3084 , Tower 3 , Prestige Song Of The South , Begur Koppa Road , Yelenahalli Begur , Bengaluru - 560068 have changed my name to Rahul Kumar Sachan.

I, Zeeshan Ali Mohammad Zafar Nadaf, R/o #A 303 Akruthi Amity Aprs, Ananthnagar Ph-2, Electronic City Ph 2, Bangalore, Karnataka- 560100 have changed my name to Zeeshan Ali Nadaf

D Anthony Swamy and DOB 01/05/1978 S/O JOSEPH 76/3 kalena agrahara bangalore south bangalore-76 I have changed my name ANTHONI RAJ J and DOB 01/05/1976 for all purpose

I Sudhira S/O, Narayana Billava R/o 501 A Block 5th Floor Gopalan Florenza Aprt 11th Blk Srinivasapura Bsk 6th Stg Bangalore - 560060 have changed my name to Sudhira Billava.

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PRM/KA/RERA/1251/310/PR/151223/006489 G+3
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OPP. NPS SCHOOL (3 & 4-BHK)
₹ 1.05 - 2.17 Cr*

PRM/KA/RERA/1251/310/PR/210324/006724 G+14
SILKBOARD

NEAR SINGASANDRA METRO STN.
₹ 79.10 L - 1.22 Cr*

PRM/KA/RERA/1250/301/PR/251024/007178 G+14
YELAHANKA

5 MINS - RAJANUKUNTE
₹ 49.36 - 88.53 Lakhs*

PRM/KA/RERA/1251/308/PR/160824/006973 G+14
BANNERGHATTA RD.

NEAR KOPPA GATE
₹ 56.64 - 93.23 Lakhs*

PRM/KA/RERA/1251/308/PR/160824/006972 G+4
ELECTRONIC CITY

NEAR HOSA ROAD METRO
₹ 62.26 L - 1.24 Cr*

PRM/KA/RERA/1250/304/PR/251024/007179 G+14
WHITEFIELD

15 MINS - HOPEFARM METRO STN.
₹ 72.34 L - 1.30 Cr*

PRM/KA/RERA/1251/308/PR/290122/004660 G+4
SARJAPURA

SARJAPURA - ATTIBELE ROAD
₹ 43.68 - 48.87 Lakhs*

PRM/KA/RERA/1251/308/PR/280222/004739 G+3
CHANDAPURA

10 MINS - BOMMASANDRA METRO
₹ 42.30 - 55.80 Lakhs*

PRM/KA/RERA/1251/309/PR/060923/006244 G+9
TUMKUR ROAD

10 MINS - MADAVARA METRO
₹ 57.20 - 91.68 Lakhs*

TRENDING PROJECT

PRM/KA/RERA/1251/472/PR/250225/007524 G+14
AIRPORT ROAD

NAVARATHNA AGRAHARA
₹ 68.64 L - 1.18 Cr*

ಡಿಎಸ್ ಮ್ಯಾಕ್ಸ್ FOR PROJECT SPECIFIC INFORMATION 7022 791 222 www.dsmaxproperties.com

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